



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

10/068,001

02/08/2002

Billy Hogan

2380-604

6407

7590

09/10/2004

NIXON & VANDERHUYE P.C.

8th Floor

1100 North Glebe Road

Arlington, VA 22201

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, KHAI MINH

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2684

DATE MAILED: 09/10/2004

7

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/068,001

Applicant(s)

HOGAN ET AL.

Examiner

Khai M Nguyen

Art Unit

2684

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02/08/2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-94 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9, 13-16, 18, 20-32, 36-38, 40, 42-47, 50-51, 54-62, 66-69, 71, 73-85, 89-91, 93 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) 10-12, 17, 19, 33-35, 39, 41, 48-49, 52-53, 63-65, 70, 72, 86-88, 92, 94 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 3, 5, 6.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

Art Unit: 2684

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this

Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-9, 13-16, 18, 20-32, 36-38, 40, 42-47, 50-51, 54-62, 66-69, 71, 73-85, 89-91, 93 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Wild et al. (U.S. Pat-5862480).

Regarding claim 1, Wild teaches a telecommunications network which transmits, in a broadcast channel over an air interface (col.2, lines 14-27, col.4, lines 10-21), an access group eligibility message which enables a user equipment unit which receives the access group eligibility message to ascertain, on a basis of access group to which the user equipment unit belongs, whether the user equipment unit is eligible to operate in a cell for which the access group eligibility message is transmitted (fig.2-3, col.2, lines 14-27, col.4, lines 10-21, col.5, lines 27-39).

Regarding claim 2, Wild teaches the apparatus of claim 1, wherein the access group eligibility message indicates what subscriber groups are eligible to operate in the cell for which the access group eligibility message is transmitted (fig.1, fig.11, col. 2, lines 14-27, col.4, lines 60-65, col.9. lines 8-25)

Regarding claim 3, Wild teaches the apparatus of claim 1, wherein the access group eligibility message indicates what restriction groups are not eligible to operate in the cell for which the access group eligibility message is transmitted (fig.1, fig.11, col. 2, lines 14-27, col.4, lines 60-65, col.9. lines 8-25).

Regarding claim 4, Wild teaches the apparatus of claim 1, wherein the access group eligibility message includes a bitmap which indicates eligibility for plural access groups (fig.3, col.6, lines 33-45).

Regarding claim 5, Wild teaches the apparatus of claim 1, wherein a radio access network node transmits the access group eligibility message (col.3, line 60 to col.4, line 9), and further comprising a core network node which, upon receipt of a location update request for the user equipment unit (col.1, lines 34-42), classifies the user equipment unit in at least one of plural access groups and generates for transmission to the user equipment unit through a radio access network an access group classification message which advises the user equipment unit as to which of the plural access groups the user equipment unit belongs (fig.1 fig.12, fig.18, col.4, line 66 to col.5, line 7, col. 15, line 62 to col.16, line 4).

Regarding claim 6, Wild teaches the apparatus of claim 5, wherein the user equipment unit stores an access group classification obtained from the access group classification message in a memory at the user equipment unit (fig.19, col.16, lines 5-22).

Art Unit: 2684

Regarding claim 7, Wild teaches the apparatus of claim 6, wherein the user equipment unit upon receiving the access group eligibility message compares the stored access group classification with contents of the access group eligibility message to determine whether the user equipment unit is allowed access to the cell for which the access group eligibility message is transmitted (fig.2-3, col.5, lines 14-26, col.5, lines 32-38).

Regarding claim 8, Wild teaches the apparatus of claim 7, wherein the access group eligibility message includes a first bitmap which indicates eligibility for the plural access groups (fig.3, fig.13, col.6, lines 33-45); wherein the access group classification message includes a second bitmap which advises the user equipment unit as to which of the plural access groups the user equipment unit belongs (fig.3, fig.13, col.11, lines 15-49).

Regarding claim 9, Wild teaches the apparatus of claim 8, wherein the user equipment unit performs a logical operation with respect to the first bitmap and the second bitmap to determine whether the user equipment unit is allowed access to the cell for which the access group eligibility message is transmitted (fig.3, fig.13, col.6, lines 33-45, col.11, lines 15-49).

Art Unit: 2684

Regarding claim 13, Wild teaches the apparatus of claim 6, wherein upon entering a new cell which involves a transition to a new location area (fig.13, col.11, lines 21-27), the user equipment unit checks the access group eligibility message transmitted for the new cell in order to compare the stored access group classification with contents of the access group eligibility message to determine whether the user equipment unit is allowed access to the new cell (fig.13, fig.19, col.11, lines 29-39, col.16, lines 5-22).

Regarding claim 14, Wild teaches the apparatus of claim 13, wherein upon entering a new cell which does not involve a transition to a new location area (fig.14, col.12, lines 23-29), the user equipment unit need not check the access group eligibility message to determine whether the user equipment unit is allowed access to the new cell (fig.15, col.13, lines 12-22).

Regarding claim 15, Wild teaches the apparatus of claim 1, wherein the access group classification message is one of a location update response (fig.18, col.15, line 62 to col.16, line 4) and a location update reject message which includes the access group classification (fig.17, col.15, lines 13-20).

Regarding claim 16, Wild teaches the apparatus of claim 1, wherein the access group classification message is one of a location update response (fig.18,

Art Unit: 2684

col.15, lines 62 to col.16, line 4) and a location update reject message which includes the access group classification and a version field associated with the access group classification (fig.17, col.15, lines 13-20).

Regarding claim 18, Wild teaches the apparatus of claim 6, wherein the access group classification message generated by the core network includes the access group classification and a version field associated with the access group classification (fig.19, col.16, lines 12-22).

Regarding claim 20, Wild teaches a telecommunications network comprising a core network node (col.1, lines 24-3) which, upon request from a user equipment unit, classifies the user equipment unit in at least one of plural access groups (col.2, lines 14-27) and generates for transmission to the user equipment unit through a radio access network an access group classification message which advises the user equipment unit as to which of the plural access groups the user equipment unit belongs (fig.1, col.4, lines 60-65).

Regarding claim 21, Wild teaches the apparatus of claim 20, wherein the access group classification message indicates to which one(s) of plural subscriber groups the receiving user equipment unit belongs (fig.1, col.4, line 66 to col.5, line 13).

Regarding claim 22, Wild teaches the apparatus of claim 20, wherein the access group classification message indicates to which one(s) of plural restriction groups the user equipment unit belongs (fig.1, col.4, line 66 to col.5, line 13).

Regarding claim 23, Wild teaches the apparatus of claim 20, wherein the access group classification message includes an access group classification in the form of a bitmap (fig.3, col.6, lines 32-45).

Regarding claim 24, Wild teaches the apparatus of claim 20, wherein the core network node generates the access group classification message upon receipt of a location update request from the user equipment unit (col.7, lines 26-36), and the access group classification message is one of a location update response and a location update reject message generated by the core network node which includes the access group classification (col.8, lines 1-13).

Regarding claim 25, Wild teaches the apparatus of claim 20, wherein the user equipment unit stores an access group classification obtained from the access group classification message in a memory at the user equipment unit (fig.19, col.16, lines 5-22).

Regarding claim 26, Wild teaches the apparatus of claim 25, further comprising a radio access node of the radio access network which transmits (col.1, lines 18-22), in a broadcast channel over an air interface (col.1, lines 24-33), an access group eligibility message which enables the user equipment unit which receives the access group eligibility message to ascertain (col.3, line 60 to col.4, line 9), on a basis of access group to which the user equipment unit belongs (col.4, lines 9-21), whether the user equipment unit is eligible to operate in a cell for which the access group eligibility message is transmitted (col.4, lines 9-21).

Regarding claim 27, Wild teaches the apparatus of claim 26, wherein the access group eligibility message indicates what subscriber groups are eligible to operate in the cell for which the access group eligibility message is transmitted (col.3, line 60 to col.4, line 21).

Regarding claim 28, Wild teaches the apparatus of claim 26, wherein the access group eligibility message indicates what restriction groups are not eligible to operate in the cell for which the access group eligibility message is transmitted (fig.1, fig.11, col.2, lines 14-27, col.4, lines 60-65, col.9, lines 8-25).

Art Unit: 2684

Regarding claim 29, Wild teaches the apparatus of claim 26, wherein the access group eligibility message includes a bitmap which indicates eligibility for plural access groups (fig.3, col.6, lines 33-45).

Regarding claim 30, Wild teaches the apparatus of claim 26, wherein the user equipment unit upon receiving the access group eligibility message compares the stored access group classification with contents of the access group eligibility message to determine whether the user equipment unit is allowed access to the cell for which the access group eligibility message is transmitted (fig.2-3, col.5, lines 14-26, col.5, lines 32-38).

Regarding claim 31, Wild teaches the apparatus of claim 30, wherein the access group eligibility message includes a first bitmap which indicates eligibility for the plural access groups (fig.3, fig.13, col.6, lines 33-45); wherein the access group classification message includes a second bitmap which advises the user equipment unit as to which of the plural access groups the user equipment unit belongs (fig.3, fig.13, col.11, lines 15-49).

Regarding claim 32, Wild teaches the apparatus of claim 31, wherein the user equipment unit performs a logical operation with respect to the first bitmap and the second bitmap to determine whether the user equipment unit is allowed

Art Unit: 2684

access to the cell for which the access group eligibility message is transmitted (fig.3, fig.13, col.6, lines 33-45, col.11, lines 15-49).

Regarding claim 36, Wild teaches the apparatus of claim 26, wherein upon entering a new cell which involves a transition to a new location area (fig.13, col.11, lines 21-27), the user equipment unit checks the access group eligibility message transmitted for the new cell in order to compare the stored access group classification with contents of the access group eligibility message to determine whether the user equipment unit is allowed access to the new cell (fig.13, fig.19, col.11, lines 29-39, col.16, lines 5-22).

Regarding claim 37, Wild teaches the apparatus of claim 36, wherein upon entering a new cell which does not involve a transition to a new location area (fig.14, col.12, lines 23-29), the user equipment unit need not check the access group eligibility message to determine whether the user equipment unit is allowed access to the new cell (fig.15, col.13, lines 12-22).

Regarding claim 38, Wild teaches the apparatus of claim 20, wherein the access group classification message includes an access group classification and a version field associated with the access group classification (fig.19, col.16, lines 12-22).

Regarding claim 40, Wild teaches the apparatus of claim 26, wherein the access group classification message generated by the core network includes the access group classification and a version field associated with the access group classification (fig.17, col.15, lines 13-29).

Regarding claim 42, Wild teaches a user equipment unit which receives over an air interface an access group classification message and an access group eligibility message (col.2, lines 14-27, col.4, lines 10-21), the access group classification message being generated by a core network node for advising the user equipment unit as to which of the plural access groups the user equipment unit belongs (fig.1, col.4, lines 60-65), the access group eligibility message being generated by a radio access network node for specifying eligibility of plural access groups to operate in a cell for which the access group eligibility message is transmitted (fig.2-3, col.2, lines 14-27, col.4, lines 10-21, col.5, lines 27-39), the user equipment unit comprising:

an access controller which stores an access group classification obtained from the access group eligibility message and which compares the stored access group classification with contents of the access group eligibility message to determine whether the user equipment unit is allowed access to the cell for which the access group eligibility message is transmitted (fig.2-3, fig.12, col.5, lines 14-27, col.10, lines 24-33).

Regarding claim 43, Wild teaches the apparatus of claim 42, wherein the access group eligibility message indicates what subscriber groups are eligible to operate in the cell for which the access group eligibility message is transmitted (fig.1, fig.11, col.2, lines 14-27, col.4, lines 60-65, col.9, lines 8-25).

Regarding claim 44, Wild teaches the apparatus of claim 42, wherein the access group eligibility message indicates what restriction groups are not eligible to operate in the cell for which the access group eligibility message is transmitted (fig.1, fig.11, col.2, lines 14-27, col.4, lines 60-65, col.9, lines 8-25).

Regarding claim 45, Wild teaches the apparatus of claim 42, wherein the access group eligibility message includes a bitmap which indicates eligibility for plural access groups (fig.3, col.6, lines 33-45).

Regarding claim 46, Wild teaches the apparatus of claim 45, wherein the access group eligibility message includes a first bitmap which indicates eligibility for the plural access groups (fig.3, fig.13, col.6, lines 33-45); wherein the access group classification message includes a second bitmap which advises the user

Art Unit: 2684

equipment unit as to which of the plural access groups the user equipment unit belongs (fig.3, fig.13, col.11, lines 15-49).

Regarding claim 47, Wild teaches the apparatus of claim 46, wherein the user equipment unit performs a logical operation with respect to the first bitmap and the second bitmap to determine whether the user equipment unit is allowed access to the cell for which the access group eligibility message is transmitted (fig.3, fig.13, col.6, lines 33-45, col.11, lines 15-49).

Regarding claim 50, Wild teaches the apparatus of claim 42, wherein the access group classification message is one of a location update response and a location update reject message which includes the access group classification (col.8, lines 1-13).

Regarding claim 51, Wild teaches the apparatus of claim 42, wherein the access group classification message includes the access group classification and a version field associated with the access group classification (fig.19, col.16, lines 12-22).

Art Unit: 2684

Regarding claim 54, Wild teaches a method of operating a telecommunications network comprising:

transmitting, in a broadcast channel over an air interface (col.2, lines 14-27, col.4, lines 10-21), an access group eligibility message (fig.1, col.4, lines 10-21);

a user equipment unit receives the access group eligibility message and using the access group eligibility message to ascertain, on a basis of access group to which the user equipment unit belongs (fig.1, col.4, lines 60-65), whether the user equipment unit is eligible to operate in a cell for which the access group eligibility message is transmitted (fig.2-3, col.2, lines 14-27, col.4, lines 10-21, col.5, lines 27-39).

Regarding claim 55, Wild teaches the method of claim 54, further comprising including in the access group eligibility message an indication of what subscriber groups are eligible to operate in the cell for which the access group eligibility message is transmitted (fig.1, fig.11, col.2, lines 14-27, col.4, lines 60-65, col.9, lines 8-25).

Regarding claim 56, Wild teaches the method of claim 54, further comprising including in the access group eligibility message an indication of what restriction groups are not eligible to operate in the cell for which the access group

Art Unit: 2684

eligibility message is transmitted (fig.1, fig.11, col.2, lines 14-27, col.4, lines 60-65, col.9, lines 8-25).

Regarding claim 57, Wild teaches the method of claim 54, further comprising including in the access group eligibility message a bitmap which indicates eligibility for plural access groups (fig.3, col.6, lines 33-45).

Regarding claim 58, Wild teaches the method of claim 54, further comprising:

using a radio access network node to transmit the access group eligibility message (col.3, line 60 to col.4, line 9);

at a core network node and upon receipt of a location update request for the user equipment unit, classifying the user equipment unit in at least one of plural access groups (col.1, lines 34-42);

generating, for transmission to the user equipment unit through a radio access network, an access group classification message which advises the user equipment unit as to which of the plural access groups the user equipment unit belongs (fig.1, fig.12, fig.18, col.4, line 66 to col.5, line 7, col.15, line 62 to col.16, line 4).

Art Unit: 2684

Regarding claim 59, Wild teaches the method of claim 58, further comprising storing in a memory at the user equipment unit an access group classification obtained from the access group classification message (fig.19, col.16, lines 5-22).

Regarding claim 60, Wild teaches the method of claim 59, further comprising the user equipment unit, upon receiving the access group eligibility message, comparing the stored access group classification with contents of the access group eligibility message to determine whether the user equipment unit is allowed access to the cell for which the access group eligibility message is transmitted (fig.2-3, col.5, lines 14-26, col.5, lines 32-38).

Regarding claim 61, Wild teaches the method of claim 60, further comprising:

including in the access group eligibility message a first bitmap which indicates eligibility for the plural access groups (fig.2, fig.13, col.6, lines 33-45);
and

including in the access group classification message a second bitmap which advises the user equipment unit as to which of the plural access groups the user equipment unit belongs (fig.3, fig.13, col.11, lines 15-49).

Regarding claim 62, Wild teaches the method of claim 61, further comprising performing a logical operation with respect to the first bitmap and the second bitmap to determine whether the user equipment unit is allowed access to the cell for which the access group eligibility message is transmitted (fig.3, fig.13, col.6, lines 33-45, col.11, lines 15-49).

Regarding claim 66, Wild teaches the method of claim 54, further comprising:

upon the user equipment unit entering a new cell which involves a transition to a new location area, checking the access group eligibility message transmitted for the new cell (fig.13, col.11, lines 21-28); and

comparing the stored access group classification with contents of the access group eligibility message to determine whether the user equipment unit is allowed access to the new cell (fig.13, fig.19, col.11, lines 29-39, col.16, lines 5-22).

Regarding claim 67, Wild teaches the method of claim 66, further comprising, upon the user equipment unit entering a new cell which does not involve a transition to a new location area (fig.14, col.12, lines 23-29), the user

Art Unit: 2684

equipment unit not checking the access group eligibility message (fig.15, col.13, lines 12-22).

Regarding claim 68, Wild teaches the method of claim 54, wherein the access group classification message is one of a location update response (fig.18, col.15, line 62 to col.16, line 4) and a location update reject message which includes the access group classification (fig.17, col.15, lines 13-20).

Regarding claim 69, Wild teaches the method of claim 54, further comprising including in the access group classification message the access group classification (fig.18, col.15, lines 62 to col.16, line 4) and a version field associated with the access group classification (fig.17, col.15, lines 13-20).

Regarding claim 71, Wild teaches the method of claim 54, wherein the access group classification message generated by the core network includes the access group classification and a version field associated with the access group classification (fig.19, col.16, lines 12-22).

Regarding claim 73, Wild teaches a method of operating a telecommunications network comprising:

Art Unit: 2684

at a core network node and upon request from a user equipment unit, classifying the user equipment unit in at least one of plural access groups (col.1, lines 24-33, col.2, lines 14-27);

generating, for transmission to the user equipment unit through a radio access network, an access group classification message which advises the user equipment unit as to which of the plural access groups the user equipment unit belongs (fig.1, col.4, lines 60-65).

Regarding claim 74, Wild teaches the method of claim 73, further comprising including in the access group classification message an indication as to which one(s) of plural subscriber groups the receiving user equipment unit belongs (fig.1, col.4, line 66 to col.5, line 13).

Regarding claim 75, Wild teaches the method of claim 73, further comprising including in the access group classification message an indication as to which one(s) of plural restriction groups the user equipment unit belongs (fig.1, col.4, line 66 to col.5, line 13).

Regarding claim 76, Wild teaches the method of claim 73, further comprising including in the access group classification message an access group classification in the form of a bitmap (fig.3, col.6, lines 32-45).

Regarding claim 77, Wild teaches the method of claim 73, further comprising using the core network node to generate the access group classification message upon receipt of a location update request from the user equipment unit (col.7, lines 26-36), the access group classification message being one of a location update response and a location update reject message generated by the core network node which includes the access group classification (col.8, lines 1-13).

Regarding claim 78, Wild teaches the method of claim 73, further comprising storing in a memory at the user equipment unit an access group classification obtained from the access group classification message (fig.19, col.16, lines 5-22).

Regarding claim 79, Wild teaches the method of claim 78, further comprising:

Art Unit: 2684

transmitting, from a radio access node of the radio access network and in a broadcast channel over an air interface (col.1, lines 18-33), an access group eligibility message (col.3, line 60 to col.4, line 9); and

using the access group eligibility message at the user equipment unit to ascertain (col.3, line 60 to col.4, line 9), on a basis of access group to which the user equipment unit belongs (col.4, lines 9-21), whether the user equipment unit is eligible to operate in a cell for which the access group eligibility message is transmitted (col.4, lines 9-21).

Regarding claim 80, Wild teaches the method of claim 79, further comprising including in the access group eligibility message an indication of what subscriber groups are eligible to operate in the cell for which the access group eligibility message is transmitted (col.3, line 60 to col.4, line 21).

Regarding claim 81, Wild teaches the method of claim 79, further comprising including in the access group eligibility message an indication of what restriction groups are not eligible to operate in the cell for which the access group eligibility message is transmitted (fig.1, fig.11, col.2, lines 14-27, col.4, lines 60-65, col.9, lines 8-25).

Art Unit: 2684

Regarding claim 82, Wild teaches the method of claim 79, further comprising including in the access group eligibility message a bitmap which indicates eligibility for plural access groups (fig.3, col.6, lines 33-45).

Regarding claim 83, Wild teaches the method of claim 79, further comprising the user equipment unit, upon receiving the access group eligibility message, comparing the stored access group classification with contents of the access group eligibility message to determine whether the user equipment unit is allowed access to the cell for which the access group eligibility message is transmitted (fig.2-3, col.5, lines 14-26, col.5, lines 32-38).

Regarding claim 84, Wild teaches the method of claim 83, further comprising:

including in the access group eligibility message a first bitmap which indicates eligibility for the plural access groups (fig.3, fig.13, col.6, lines 33-45);
and

including in the access group classification message a second bitmap which advises the user equipment unit as to which of the plural access groups the user equipment unit belongs (fig.3, fig.13, col.11, lines 15-49).

Regarding claim 85, Wild teaches the method of claim 84, further comprising performing a logical operation with respect to the first bitmap and the second bitmap to determine whether the user equipment unit is allowed access to the cell for which the access group eligibility message is transmitted (fig.3, fig.13, col.6, lines 33-45, col.11, lines 15-49).

Regarding claim 89, Wild teaches the method of claim 78, further comprising, upon the user equipment unit entering a new cell which involves a transition to a new location area (fig.13, col.11, lines 21-27), the user equipment unit checking the access group eligibility message transmitted for the new cell in order to compare the stored access group classification with contents of the access group eligibility message to determine whether the user equipment unit is allowed access to the new cell (fig.13, fig.19, col.11, lines 29-39, col.16, lines 5-22).

Regarding claim 90, Wild teaches the method of claim 89, further comprising, upon the user equipment unit entering a new cell which does not involve a transition to a new location area (fig.14, col.12, lines 23-29), the user equipment unit not checking the access group eligibility message to determine whether the user equipment unit is allowed access to the new cell (fig.15, col.13, lines 12-22).

Regarding claim 91, Wild teaches the method of claim 78, further comprising including in the access group classification message an access group classification and a version field associated with the access group classification (fig.19, col.16, lines 12-22).

Regarding claim 93, Wild teaches the method of claim 78, further comprising including in the access group classification message generated by the core network the access group classification and a version field associated with the access group classification (fig.17, col.15, lines 13-29).

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 10-12, 17, 19, 33-35, 39, 41, 48-49, 52-53, 63-65, 70, 72, 86-88, 92, 94 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosures.

Art Unit: 2684

a) Liu et al. (U.S. Pat-5949770) discloses Method for assigning feature sets on virtual private telecommunication networks.

b) Kukkohovi (U.S. Pat-6119003) discloses Method and apparatus for performing automatic mode selection in a multimode mobile terminal.

c) Vasnier (U.S. pat-6081708) discloses Multi-network communication system for organization having digital cellular radio network terminals.

d) Tirabassi et al. (U.S. Pat-6073023) discloses Communications system having predefined calling group.

e) Schultz (U.S. Pat-6018522) discloses Method for providing from an information network to subscribers of communication system.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Khai M Nguyen whose telephone number is 703.305.3906. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nay Maung can be reached on 703.308.7745. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2684

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Khai Nguyen
Au: 2684
Initial : KN



NICK CORSARO
PRIMARY EXAMINER

8/26/2004